MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 JANUARY 1982

Sudan

SUNA reported that President Ja'far Numayri issued a presidential decree relieving Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil from his duties as vice president, defense minister and commander in chief of the armed forces. Numayri will assume the posts of defense minister and armed forces commander. SUNA noted that the president sent Khalil a message praising his work during his term of office.

According to SUNA, Numayri issued another decree nominating 'Awad Muhammad Malik as secretary to the Presidency of the Sudan Socialist Union.

Egypt

Mubarak Election, Speech -- Cairo radio provided live coverage of the 26 January National Democratic Party (NDP) congress during which President Husni Mubarak was elected NDP chairman. In a speech to the congress, Mubarak said Egypt's foreign policy principles include adherence to nonalignment, rejection of subservience and polarization, and belief that its strategic interests are linked to Arab, Islamic and African circles, though this does not preclude the establishment of close relations with Europe, America and other states. Asserting that his country will continue to build peace, he said Egypt supports the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and its "legitimate struggle."

Israel

The Jerusalem POST reported that by a vote of 45 to 40 the Knesset adopted a resolution calling for the enactment of a law replacing the compensation agreement with the Sinai evacuees approved by the government. The POST said this defeat for the government was made possible by the absence of eight coalition members who are abroad. The resolution denounced all manifestations of violence or contempt for law, regardless of whether they stem from intent to extort excessive compensation or a desire to halt the evacuation.

Justice Minister Moshe Nisim told Jerusalem radio that although the Knesset resolution is not binding, the government must not ignore it. He added that his ministry had already prepared a draft bill, and that the government may eventually choose the path of legislation rather than negotiation with the Yamit settlers. After realizing that the government coalition did not have a majority in the Knesset, the Alignment submitted a motion of no-confidence, the radio reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syrian-Jordanian Relations -- SANA reported that Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur handed the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Damascus a memorandum rejecting Jordanian accusations that a Syrian diplomat was associated with a recent explosion in an Amman grocery store. Qaddur told the Jordanian charge that the Syrian authorities now have information and proof confirming that the Jordanian intelligence apparatus had planned the incident. Amman television said the SANA report comes 11 days after the Jordanian authorities disclosed the planning of the incident and the involvement in it of the third secretary of the Syrian Embassy, who subsequently left Amman for Syria.

Meanwhile, Doha radio reported that Kuwait has expressed willingness to mediate between Syria and Jordan.

PLO

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that the PLO Executive Committee held a meeting under its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, at which the effect of statements made recently by several West Bank and Gaza mayors was examined.

Jerusalem radio reported that mayors of Judaea and Samaria issued a communique rejecting Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj's call on the PLO to recognize Israel and join in the political process. Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah issued an announcement terming Frayj's proposal capitulation to Israeli and U.S. pressure. According to the radio, Ash-Shak'ah maintained that Israel and the United States should first recognize the PLO. The mayors of three other towns endorsed this view.

Syria

Citing Arab diplomatic sources in Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio said that during the past few days about 100 Soviet military experts repatriated their families from Syria in the wake of warnings by the Muslim Brotherhood urging the experts to leave the country. According to another report by the radio, sources close to the regime said 50 officers were executed on charges of participating in a recent coup attempt. The radio also reported clashes in Aleppo between the Muslim Brotherhood and the army after the latter encircled the city with tanks and other vehicles in order to search for coup participants. The radio claimed that "similar" situations prevailed in Hamah and Damascus. It also said that inhabitants near the Iraqi border left for the interior due to fear of military operations that might result from Syrian-Iraqi tension.

Lebanon

According to the Voice of Palestine radio, the Higher Coordination Committee held an emergency meeting in southern Lebanon to deal with repercussions of recent incidents in the An-Nabatiyah region. The radio said that the participants condemned all incidents within the national ranks and agreed that all those responsible for the incidents should be handed over to the appropriate parties in the committee.

GCC

According to SPA, Saudi Defense Minister Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz told the Gulf Cooperation Council's (GCC) defense ministers meeting in Riyadh that the current regional and international situation requires the GCC countries to pool their energies and coordinate policies at the highest level in the face of growing foreign threats. SPA said GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah commented after the ministers' first closed session that his report dealt with the way to achieve unified action in defense and security in accordance with the principles of opposing foreign military bases, adhering to the commitment to nonalignment and neutrality and preventing foreign infiltration.

Iran

Warning to France -- Tehran radio broadcast a "reconstruction crusade" statement on the French Government's "dastardly attack" on Muslims praying at the Paris University campus. Asserting that France is once again "baring its teeth and claws," the statement warned the French Government that if it continues such treatment, it will suffer the same consequences as the United States faced in Iran. According to AFP, the statement was referring to an incident on 23 January in which several followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni were hurt.

Pakistan

After a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq told Paris radio that Pakistan is very interested in purchasing French Mirage-2000 aircraft and other military equipment, although there is "no precise contract" at the moment. According to Karachi radio, Haq stated at a Paris news conference that Pakistan has neither the capacity nor intention to manufacture an atomic bomb "under any circumstances." He added, however, that his country will continue to acquire atomic technology for peaceful purposes.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL DISCUSSES PROGRESS OF LAND REFORM

LD250616 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Kabul, 24 Jan (BAKHTAR) -- The joint commission of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the DRA held a session under the chairmanship of the Revolutionary Council on the continuation of the implementation of the just and democratic land reform at the revolutionary headquarters today.

Dwelling in detail on the importance of a just and democratic land reform for renovation and building of a blossoming society in revolutionary Afghanistan and economic living condition of the workers of the country, Babrak Karmal said:

"The accomplishment of a just and democratic land reforms in par with the rites, traditions and religious tenets of the people shatters the old and unjust relations which were a factor of backwardness and misery of the toiling people of Afghanistan. The eradication of feudal relations and the useful distribution of the land will be the foundation stone of all economic and social transformation in Afghanistan and will provide a good ground for the building of our beloved country. Thus, learning from our past errors we should act with great care and realistically."

Babrak Karmal added: "The commencement of the [words indistinct] operational groups all over the country is an indicator of the serious attention by the DRA to the completion of land reforms and its correct, realistic, scientific and [words indistinct] evaluation for avoiding mistakes."

Later, according to the agenda, Fazil Rahim Mohmand, the minister of agriculture and land reform, gave a detailed report regarding the implementation of the directives issued under the joint decision adopted by the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the DRA on June 20, 1981 and under the resolution adopted by the joint commission of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the [words indistinct] for the continuation of the land reform on the results of the previous phase of the land reforms.

According to the resolution of the joint commission of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of DRA, the implementation of just and democratic land reforms in our beloved country, Afghanistan, is continuing in accord with the instruction of the joint resolution of PDPA CC and the Council of Ministers of DRA in some provinces of the country.

At the present stage of land reforms specifications of the regions, customs, traditions and religious beliefs of the toilers of the country are seriously respected and special attention is paid to the (?analysis) of the situation of using the land, identification of the land exceeding the limited estate of land owners, just distribution of land and water, arranging and distribution of official documents of land (?ownership), material and financial help to farmers with priority given to those farmers who have got the land in the course of the implementation of land reforms.

The resolution says that for the realization of the application of the programme of continued implementation of just (?and democratic land reform), the second and third agriculture land reforms and according to it, having in view the collected informations of the first operational plans the proceeding works of land reforms will be implemented in the country from the beginning of the year 1361 (March 21, 1982).

According to this resolution the application of this resolution will be controlled and supervised by the economic section of the PDPA CC and the general department for the management of the activities of the machinery of Council of Ministers [word indistinct].

The session also discussed the second and third operational plans of the revolutionary stage of just and democratic land reforms prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms which was confirmed by the commission.

The commission confirmed that in the present stage of land reforms characteristics of regions, customs, traditions and religious beliefs of the country's toilers should be seriously respected and especial attention be paid to the evaluation of real state [words indistinct] of the land, identification of land owners exceeding the limited estates, distribution of land and water, preparation and distribution of official documents of ownership and material, technical and financial assistance to those farmers who got the land as a result of the implementation of land reform.

A source from the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms said that the second operational plan includes correction of the errors of the previous stage of land reforms, just distribution of land and water, recording and distribution of official documents of land ownership and the second operational plan also envisages giving material, technical and financial assistance to farmers and landowners and aid to the task of organizing agricultural cooperatives and extension of the activities of production and distribution of agricultural products and completing the infrastructural institutions related to cooperatives. With the successful implementation of these plans positive changes will occur in life of rural toilers.

CSSR DAILY INTERVIEWS AFGHAN TRADE MINISTER

AU181635 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 15 Jan 82 p 6

[Interview given by Mohammad Yallalar, Afghan minister of trade, to Dusan Brabec: "With the Countries of All Continents"; in Kabul, date not given]

[Summary] From a journalist in Kabul I learned that Minister Yallalar is one of the outstanding economists in Asia, and that he had been appointed minister "as a nonparty member precisely because he is an outstanding representative of Afghan enterpreneurial circles, of the majority of the Afghan national bourgeoisie, which is patriotically supporting the government's efforts to radically improve the people's living conditions."

"I have beautiful memories of Czechoslovakia," the minister said to me in greeting. "I conducted talks there both prior to and after the revolution. I have many sincere friends in your country. We have been trading with the CSSR these many years, and our contacts have always been correct and on a high level." Now, after the April Revolution, one can say that "your country is one of those that is helping us most, economically, technically and morally, together with the Soviet Union."

[Question] "Can you characterize the trade exchange with other countries?"

[Answer] "Our largest and most reliable partners are the socialist states," above all the USSR, "but also the CSSR, GDR and Bulgaria." We are trading with many countries in Europe, America, Africa and the Far East -- including the PRC, South Korea, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Algeria, Libya, Syria and also the United States. "We have already officially declared several times that trade with these countries is going on normally. The political situation in this or that country is being disregarded because business is business."

[Question] How is the decision on consolidating the state sphere in foreign trade being realized?

[Answer] "The state sector is developing well, but the state is also providing guarantees for the private sector." Our ministry is seeing to a proportional development of the two sectors in all phases, in procurement, imports, transportation and exports.

[Question] What is the purpose of the Afghankart mixed shareholding company?

[Answer] It is a company based on state and private capital; "it is managed by the state, which has the majority of shares" and "can thus influence the import-export operations." The "Afghankart unifies the trade contacts of private people, influencing them for the benefit of the domestic market.

When, for instance, the price of some kind of goods begins to rise inordinately on the bazaars, the organization purchases sufficient amounts of shortage goods and sells them to the market. This increases the supply and cuts down the prices in shops. And vice versa, if private people export goods, and the foreign consumers offer them low prices, the Afghankart purchases the goods from them, waits until the demand abroad increases, and then sells the goods. In this way the state is aiding both the tradesmen and the consumers. True, this organization is still young," it still shows growing pains. But it has already registered successes and it "will play a significant role in the future. In the regulation of private trade it will be the pivotal point, directing its development economically and smoothly, according to plan."

USSR FOREIGN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KABUL

LD211600 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Jan 82

[Text] A USSR commercial delegation, led by (?Khshtoyan), deputy chief of [words indistinct] in the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry, arrived today in Kabul for talks about the exchange of goods protocol between the DRA and the USSR for 1982 and for discussion about further expansion of trade between the two countries.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by the chief of the Foreign Trade Department of the Ministry of Commerce and the USSR commercial attache in Kabul.

REBELS 'CRUSHED,' WEAPONS SEIZED IN QONDUZ

LD190700 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Jan 82

[Text] As a result of the operations which were carried out on 16 January by the sarandoy force and the party members in the [word indistinct] village, in Qonduz Province, 12 counterrevolutionary elements, including their ringleader, were crushed and another 5 of them were captured.

Three Kalashnikovs, one rocket launcher and two missiles and a number of assorted weapons and handgrenades were seized by the security force from these traitors to the homeland.

SECURITY FORCES REPORT SUCCESSES AGAINST REBELS

LD252204 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] A group of counterrevolutionary elements who disrupted the peaceful life of the toiling people of Dawlat Shahi village, Baghram district, through looting, plunder and terrorism, were killed by the sarandoy troops and the district's revolution defense groups on 19 January. Also, another band of 12 counterrevolutionaries was crushed on the same day in Baba Khel village in Parvan Province.

A spokesman for the province's security organization said 16 heavy and light machineguns, 1 303-type rifle and a quantity of ammunition were seized from these traitors.

According to a report by the BAKHTAR correspondent from the capital of Parvan Province, the noble and toiling people of Baghram expressed pleasure at the news of the crushing of the murderers and thieves, and thanked the sarandoy troops and the revolution defense groups for the relentless struggle waged against these lunatics and murderers.

According to a report from Maymana, capital of Fariab Province, bands of the agents of reaction and imperialism, who caused disruption and annoyance to the toiling people of Zarbab, Fariab Province, by terror and intimidation were completely crushed 26 January [date as heard] by the revolution defense groups. Their weapons were seized.

A spokesman for the security authority in Fariab Province said that as a result of the victory of the revolution defense groups, 400 antitank mines, 110 assorted weapons, heavy and light American and Chinese-made machineguns, 2 mortars, 100,000 rounds of ammunition and a large number of leaflets and documents proving links between these looters and the mercenary bands were seized by the security forces. The spokesman added that also a store of war equipment and two stores of fuel and several transport vehicles belonging to these enemies of the homeland and revolution were destroyed.

REBELS JOIN LOCAL PARTY IN SAMANGAN PROVINCE

LD252116 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Some 127 people of the (Qazanchi), (Haji Khwaja), Chob Bash-e Kalan, (Lala Kot), (Khwaja Borhan), (Afghan Tapa-e Turkmania), (Afghan Tapa-e 'Arabia), (Afghan Tapa-e Afghania) and [word indistinct] villages, in Kholm District, Samangan Province, who had been deceived by enemy propaganda, have joined their party and revolutionary government with 127 weapons. They announced their cooperation and support for the policy of the popular party and government.

Sayd Ekram Paygir, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and member of the DRA Revolutionary Council, today took part in a meeting at Kholm District, in Samangan Province. He was accompanied by the provincial party committee secretary and the governor of Samangan. Sayd Ekram Paygir spoke with the inhabitants of Kholm District and explained the lofty aims of the party and government for the prosperity of the country, under the leadership of the PDPA.

The people of the district then showed their appreciation for the rebels who have joined their party, government and people.

According to another report, the arrival of a number of our compatriots to their homes -- who had left their homeland as a result of hostile propaganda of the enemies of the people and revolution -- is continuing. Of this group, recently 70 families returned to Konarha Province.

These compatriots of ours, who are the inhabitants of the (Shilton) and (Bira) villages of Asmar District, were welcomed by the local government official at the time of their arrival.

FRENCH PAPER REPORTS HAZARAJAT LIBERATED

PM221515 Paris LE MATIN in French 18 Jan 82 p 10

[Unattributed report: "Afghanistan: Everyday Life Under War Conditions"]

[Excerpt] Hazarajat, located in the heart of Afghanistan and inhabited by 304 million Shi'ite Muslims, is a liberated region where the mujahidin in fact exercise self-determination. However, this prevents neither raids by Soviet helicopters, nor tank incursions, nor destruction. Back from Hazarajat, a doctor from the "Medecins Sans Frontiers" organization, who has paid several long visits to it in recent years both before and since Soviet intervention in December 1979, has written a long report on the situation of which we publish the main points here:

Hazarajat -- a natural fortress in the heart of Afghanistan -- is now a completely liberated region possessing an autonomous administrative structure. Only the city of Bamian remains in the hands of the central authorities, and its garrison, which is sheltering in casemates, receives its supplies only by helicopter.

SPAIN'S JUAN CARLOS BEGINS 8-DAY VISIT

Arrival in Delhi

BK250839 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia of Spain arrived in New Delhi today from Bombay to begin their 8-day state visit to India. They were given a ceremonial welcome. The royal guests were received at the airport by President Sanjiva Reddy, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi, External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and other dignitaries. As soon as they stepped out of the special aircraft, they were presented a 21-gun salute. Later, the king inspected an interservices guard of honor.

Welcoming the king and queen, President Reddy said while India and Spain belong to different cultural traditions, they are dedicated to international cooperation for peace.

In his reply, King Carlos expressed confidence that his visit will bring India and Spain still closer to each other in their endeavor to maintain world peace.

The king is scheduled to have talks with the Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, this afternoon. He will also call on President Reddy and meet the vice president and also the external affairs minister today. He will be the chief guest at tomorrow's Republic Day ceremony in the capital.

Talks With Gandhi

BK251612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] King Carlos of Spain, who arrived in New Delhi this morning, held an hour-long exchange of views on international issues with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in the afternoon. They gave each other an assessment of the situation in their respective regions.

Mrs Gandhi expressed anxiety about conflicts close to our region. She said although they do not affect India directly, they are a matter of concern for us. Among the issues mentioned were the situation in Afghanistan and the Iran-Iraq conflict.

According to an official spokesman, the king was particularly interested in learning how the federal system in India is functioning. He greatly appreciated India's progress in agriculture and its general socioeconomic development. The king made enquiries about the Christian community in India. Mrs Gandhi gave him a background on how Christianity arrived in this country. She also told him how the Christian people are faring.

External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao, who called on King Carlos, mainly discussed with him international issues and the possibility of promoting cultural ties with Spain. Rao and Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Pedro Perez Llorca had a separate meeting, mainly devoted to international issues. The visiting foreign minister gave the Indian side an assessment of the prospect of the European security conference now in progress in Madrid. Rao told him about India's efforts to normalize relations with its neighbors, particularly China and Pakistan, and the deteriorating security environment in our area.

25 Jan Banquet

BK260418 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Jan 82

[Text] India and Spain have shared their concern over the increasing great power military rivalry in the Indian Ocean region. President Sanjiva Reddy and King Carlos of Spain expressed this concern at a banquet held in honor of the visiting king and queen of Spain by Reddy in New Delhi last night.

The president said the economies of India and Spain provide ample ground for greater cooperation in the form of a larger volume of trade and the establishment of joint ventures. Reddy added that the two countries can also increase cultural exchanges.

In his reply, the king of Spain referred to the outstanding role played by India among the countries of the Third World for international stability and peace. He also paid tribute to the late Jawaharlal Nehru who, together with Gandhi Ji, built modern India.

GANDHI MEETS WITH WORLD BANK PRESIDENT

BK221631 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Jan 82

[Text] World Bank President A.W. Clausen called on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi today. The meeting was followed by a lunch hosted by Mrs Gandhi in his honor.

During the meeting, the prime minister is understood to have expressed the hope that the World Bank would do its best to ensure that commitments already made are fulfilled and the International Development Association [IDA] program would remain a 3-year program.

Mrs Gandhi told Clausen that India is waging a struggle for achieving self-reliance. She explained to the World Bank president that the country is trying to diversify its economy through industrialization. Within its limited resources, India is also trying to help other developing countries.

Clausen, who had discussions with several ministers and also visited some projects in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, expressed his appreciation at the progress made by the country in the agricultural sector. He, however, pointed out that there is a lot more potential for growth.

Referring to World Bank assistance to India, Clausen regretted that at a time when India's needs and that of other developing countries have become huge, the IDA is confronted with major difficulties. He assured Mrs Gandhi that the World Bank is doing its best toward fulfilling its commitments.

Clausen expressed concern that protectionism in advanced countries is growing. This is an erroneous policy being pursued by the industrialized nations, he added.

Clausen also held discussions with Commerce Minister Shivraj Patil earlier in the day. He also had a meeting with Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals Shiv Shankar.

Later, at a press conference, Clausen said that the World Bank will continue to help India in its economic development.

CSSR OFFERS ASSISTANCE IN VARIOUS FIELDS

BK221636 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Jan 82

[Text] Czechoslovakia has offered to assist India with expertise and equipment in the fields of power generation, transport, chemicals and in the setting up of rolling mills. The offer was made by visiting Czechoslovak Minister for Metallurgy and Heavy Engineering Eduard Saul when he met Minister for Planning S.B. Chavan in New Delhi today.

Possibilities of Czechoslovakia extending cooperation in metallurgy and heavy engineering were also discussed.

SPOKESMAN REBUTS MOSCOW RADIO ALLEGATION

BK261026 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Jan 82

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman strongly contradicted in Islamabad today the allegation contained in a Radio Moscow broadcast that, according to the Indian magazine BLITZ, Pakistan was helping the United States in its preparations for armed intervention in Iran in order to install its puppet regime there. The broadcast quoted BLITZ as saying that the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force and the Pakistan Army will jointly move to carry out the operation.

The spokesman, while describing the story as preposterous, stated that Pakistan's relations with Iran were extremely friendly and it was ridiculous to suggest that it could in any way be a party to such a move. He emphasized that Pakistan had welcomed the Iranian revolution and was opposed to any intervention against that fraternal country.

Moreover, Pakistan believed in principles of noninterference in internal affairs of other countries and respected their sovereignty.

The spokesman pointed out that Pakistan had on several occasions made it clear that it would not agree to the grant of any bases or allow deployment of foreign forces on its territory. The reference to a so-called secret deal between Pakistan and the United States in this respect was therefore misleading and mischievous.

POLITICAL ALLIANCE OPPOSES ADVISORY COUNCIL

GF250530 Karachi DAWN in English 22 Jan 82 p 20

[Text] Islamabad, 21 Jan -- Sardar Mohammad Ibrahim, a former Azad Kashmir president and a leader of the Azad Kashmir People's Party, today said the alliance of four Azad Kashmir political parties had decided to oppose the Majlis-i-Shoora that is proposed to be constituted in Azad Kashmir.

Addressing a press conference here this evening, he said Azad Kashmir was not under martial law and political activity was not banned there as a result of the agreement which was reached in July 1977 and which had guaranteed elections within 90 days. The agreement, he said, had been signed by the chief martial law administrator; Pir Ali Jan, for the Azad Kashmir People's Party; Sardar Abdul Qayyum, for All-Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference; and Chowdhury Nur Hussain, for Azad Muslim Conference, on July 27. A photostat copy of the agreement was distributed among the newsmen.

He said the alliance representatives were called for a meeting by the federal minister of Kashmir affairs to discuss the appeal but with no results.

Now, he added, the alliance was of the considered opinion that elections should be held in whole of Pakistan without any loss of time so that power could be handed over to the elected representatives in order to save the situation from taking a serious turn. The alliance would have no objection if arrangement was made to ensure that the present president would continue to be in the same position after the elections, he added.

Sardar Iskandar Hayat, president of the All-Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference, and Mr G.M. Mir, secretary of the plebiscite front, were also present at the press conference. The president of Mr Mir's party was said to be under detention. So was Chowdhury Nur Hussain of the Azad Muslim Conference, whose support was also claimed by them.

SRI LANKA

GOVERNMENT ACCUSES MARXISTS OF INCITING STUDENTS

BK231207 Hong Kong AFP in English 0921 GMT 23 Jan 82

[Text] Colombo, 23 Jan (AFP) -- The government has accused Marxist agitators of inciting university and college students to protest the proposed educational reforms in order to stir unrest in the country.

One of the main criticisms against the proposed reforms is that they would mean erosion of Sri Lanka's nearly 4-decade-old free education system. Education is free from kindergarten through university.

Education Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe told Parliament -- where security has visibly been strengthened -- that the pro-Moscow Sri Lankan Communist Party, currently said to be fighting for survival, had orchestrated the demonstrations and protests in different parts of the country.

Speaking at the end of a 2-day debate, Mr Wickremesinghe last night accused the Communist Party of trying to provoke incidents so that it would have a corpse to use in its anti-government agitation. He said this was part of the communist attempt to form an anti-government front to defeat the ruling United National Party at the forthcoming national elections.

The minister also blamed the People's Liberation Front (JVP), which led the 1971 youth insurrection in which 1,200 people were officially said to have died, for the unrest. Reports here also said that police investigations had revealed that the Communist Party and the JVP were behind the demonstrations.

Meanwhile, THE ISLAND newspaper quoted a spokesman for the inter-university students federation as saying that students from eight university campuses, technical colleges and some secondary schools were boycotting classes. The spokesman added that 20 students had been taken into custody. THE ISLAND also said four undergraduates from a suburban university had been arrested and remanded in custody by a magistrate for allegedly inciting students to strike and for entering a school without permission.

The SUN newspaper meanwhile said that students had stayed away from classes in nearly 200 schools in the provinces. Over 200 schools were closed on government's orders due to the student unrest, according to the Communist Party newspaper "TRUTH".

But Education Minister Wickremesinghe said last night that though there had been student protests in some areas and attempts to force students to demonstrate in others, these moves did not have universal backing.

The pro-Moscow Communist Party's sole representative in Parliament, Sarath Muttetuwegama, said last night that the reforms were a subtle attempt to strengthen the social and economic position of the country's privileged classes.

He said the proposal to make English compulsory for university admission was an attempt to discriminate against the rural poor and the working classes and negate the free education system.

Fears have also been expressed by sections of the Tamil and Muslim minorities that the proposed system of grouping schools will result in a loss of the distinctive identity of Tamil and Muslim schools. These groups have urged the government not to allow this to happen.

The education minister said yesterday that the government would give due consideration to comments both in and out of Parliament and might consider dropping some of the proposals and amending others.

He said that English would not be made a compulsory subject immediately. The intention was to take English to the rural areas and not make it the privilege of some sections. This would eliminate some of the existing inequalities in educational opportunities, he added.

FRANCE WARNED OF SAME CONSEQUENCES AS U.S.

LD252022 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the foreign section of the central headquarters of the reconstruction crusade issued a statement on the dastardly attack by the criminal French Government against those who took part in congregational prayers on the campus of Paris University, which resulted in injuries for a number of them. The statement says:

This is not the first time that the ruling government in France has had such dealings with the children of the revolutionary and Muslim Iranian nation. Despite all its pretences and its false appearance, the French Government has not been able to hide from world public opinion its animosity toward the Islamic revolution. The sale of Mirage aircraft to the aggressive Ba'thist regime in Iraq at this point in time by that government which is a partner in American crimes, has further acquainted the oppressed nations of the world with the true nature of that regime. It was the same country which slaughtered more than 1 million of the best children of Islam in Algeria. It is in order to revenge that great defeat by Islam in Algeria; that France is once again baring its teeth and claws.

The Islamic Iranian nation warns that government and similar governments that if such treatment is continued they will have the same consequences which America faced in Iran.

KHAMENE'I SPEAKS ON PERSIAN GULF SITUATION

LD251320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Excerpts] According to a Central News Unit report, at noon today President Khamene'i received Elahi, the director of the navy's politicoideological department, and a number of commanders and officials from the navy's politicoideological and information departments.

The president said: Our army belongs to the people and our clergy are free to take expeditious action. These two sectors work together, plan together and move together. Considerable efforts have been unsuccessful in disrupting this complete fabric. The army is a manifestation of the people's wrath against the enemy.

Referring to recent movements in the Persian Gulf, he said Iran dominates the sea in the region. Continuing his remarks, the president added: Whether military, paramilitary or civilian, our brave and faithful fighters are prepared to be martyred for the sake of their objective and aspiration. Our current problem in the region is the question of manpower. If other governments fail to acquire the necessary equipment; if the big powers dare to supply them with the most modern equipment, while being aware of the internal situations in the region and fearing the consequences, then what committed and efficient manpower could make use of such equipment? [sentence as heard]

We say to all those governments that believe they are dutybound to weaken the Islamic revolution of Iran: We are stronger than you are. This is a fact, an objective fact -- even though it cannot be fathomed in ordinary equations or with the brains and sensitive computers used by the region's governments and planners.

Alluding to Iraq's aggression and the brave Islamic combatants' resistance, Mr Khamene'i said: Even Iraq's friends and supporters admit that Iraq is suffering great humiliation. He added that middlemen in world politics, having resorted to propaganda and considerable clamor, are trying to restore peace between us. We have said from the beginning that we did not start the war, nor do we wish to wage war. We have always supported peace in the region and [word indistinct]. However, peace is only viable when it is not considered as either an encouragement or a reward for the aggressor. Any peace should embody a restoration of legitimate rights.

We say this very same thing with regard to the Persian Gulf and its littoral states. We would like to keep the Persian Gulf as a peaceful region where no war is waged and where the governments are able to peacefully use God-given blessings for their peoples. An ideal situation for us is one where no one bothers anyone else, where no one claims to act as policeman of the Persian Gulf. As the strongest and biggest government in the Persian Gulf, the Islamic Republic has never wanted to be the Gulf's policeman. Consequently, any nurturing of the idea to become a policeman of the Persian Gulf or to have it dominated by others is a futile idea. We want a region which enjoys peace and calm; this is something which we have stated everywhere.

If the region's governments decide to construe our flexibility, which emanates from kindness and devotion, as a sign of our weakness and try to resort to dastardly provocations in the region, by relying on foreign powers, then we will act as the same revolutionary nation known to them all.

TEHRAN COMMENTS ON GCC DEFENSE AGREEMENT

GF260640 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The current policy in the Persian Gulf reveals the wide circle of imperialist conspiracy in the region. Everyone who visited the region last year -- beginning with Thatcher and Schmidt and ending with the visits by the NATO foreign ministers -- advised the Gulf rulers to form a joint defense alliance. They expressed their willingness to extend their assistance for this purpose; hence, the strange acceleration of the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC].

It was a simple idea during the abortive Amman summit, which was held to counter the Islamic revolution and to support the aggressive Saddamist regime. Persian Gulf rulers carried the idea from Amman to the At-Ta'if Islamic summit, which was held on 25 January 1981. At this summit the Gulf rulers found an opportunity to formulate the idea that ultimately resulted in the GCC. Its formation was announced on 25 March 1981 in a joint statement called the "At-Ta'if Statement."

Since then, efforts have been concentrating on an acceptable foundation for the military alliance that will include six Gulf countries, thus discarding all their differences and contradictions. Since then, the six GCC countries have been improving their various weapons, purchasing new models of deadly weapons and concluding military agreements with the Western imperialists.

One year has elapsed since the establishment of the GCC. During this time the region has witnessed great developments on various levels, the most important of which are: A clear change in the balance of the war in the Gulf region in favor of the Islamic powers and a mounting intrinsic strength among the Gulf masses -- a strength that has made the masses seriously consider toppling the regimes standing on the shoulders of the oppressed people in the region.

As a result of these factors, the Gulf region has turned to European and American arms markets. Arms expenditures have risen to about $50 billion.

It was clear to the Gulf countries that weapons alone would not accomplish anything without joint coordination and unified efforts to agree on a joint defense plan. During the first days of the GCC, a Gulf country called for establishing a Gulf army of 100,000 men to protect the Gulf. This proposal was rejected under the claim that the GCC was an economic body and had nothing to do with military affairs which are the concern of every country.

What has caused the GCC to change from an economic cooperation council into a military alliance in less than one year? This new alliance was created in Riyadh today during the GCC defense ministers meeting.

Observers view this change from many angles. In addition to the internal factors, they do not forget the external factors represented by U.S. policy in the region.

Since its big shock in Iran following the fall of the shah's regime, the embassy incident, the aggressive Saddamist war and the superiority of Islamic forces over the aggressors, the United States has tried to make some proposals to the Gulf countries to protect themselves and to prevent the oil wells from burning as a result of escalating events.

In the beginning, the United States thought of spreading a nuclear cover over the Persian Gulf region. This idea was abandoned, because the Americans were worried about the reaction from progressive countries in the region, foremost among which is the Islamic Republic of Iran -- which was holding the American hostages at that time. Then came the idea of introducing tactical nuclear weapons of limited range to the Gulf countries under the claim of repelling any direct attack on the oil wells. This idea was also abandoned, because it meant setting the entire region on fire if any country attacked the oil region.

The United States has been trying to use the best means to protect its imperialist interests in the region. This led it to propose the establishment of the joint defense alliance which the United States and NATO countries assist to keep it efficient. That is why officials in the Islamic Republic have made repeated statements on the hidden goals of the Gulf alliance.

If this alliance would serve the interests of the region and its people's interests, Muslim Iran would support it. However, if the alliance served U.S. interests and ambitions by countering the Islamic revolution in Iran, the Iranian Government and masses would take a decisive stand. Iran will adopt this stand toward any alliance serving U.S. interests, because it considers such alliances to be directed against it.

Is there any threat to U.S. interests in the region other than the mounting Islamic threat against imperialist ambitions? President 'Ali Khamene'i has said that Iran is the strongest country in the region. Its strength does not lie in tanks, armored vehicles and aircraft, because this strength is nothing compared with the masses' sacrifices to defend any part of the homeland. The Islamic Republic is strong because of its struggling masses and their readiness to enter any battle that will serve the interests of the nation and the homeland. The Islamic Republic is strong because of its great Islam, its sacred principles and the divine promise: "Do not falter or grieve, for you are superiors if you are believers." [Koranic verse]

UAE BEING PRESSURED TO OPPOSE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION

GF260522 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] The Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran has quoted independent sources as saying that the talks Jordan's King Husayn held in Bahrain and the UAE centered on assigning those two Persian Gulf coastal countries the role of hostility toward Iran's Islamic revolution. This role was supposed to be played by Bahrain alone. Middle East affairs experts believe that the UAE is at a crossroads, because -- at one time -- Iran had declared its support for the states and amirates of the Persian Gulf, including the UAE, against the interventions of U.S. imperialism. Furthermore, the UAE faces intense pressure to play its part in U.S. imperialism's new plans against the Iranian Islamic revolution.

A Middle East political affairs expert told the Central News Bureau correspondent that if the UAE were to wisely commit itself to the truth, reject the policies that have been imposed on it and confront the direct and indirect U.S. pressures, Iran would naturally defend it. By sending oil experts to Libya to replace the U.S. oil experts, Iran has demonstrated its readiness and ability to defend the region's states against the United States' imperialist interventions and conspiratorial plots.

The expert added: Let the UAE officials know that the imposed policy will face the same destiny as the imposed war.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 770

LD251742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Communique 770 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Islam's mighty combatants, fully appreciating their great mission and divine responsibility, are locked in battle against all manifestations of blasphemy and nonmonotheism and in the field of combat they are as rock solid as a mountain in their battle to safeguard Islam and the Islamic homeland.

Over the past 24 hours, positions, fortifications, personnel and equipment belonging to the aggressors came under fire from our forces on the country's western and southern fronts, and effective blows were struck at the enemy.

In the Gilan-e Gharb region, our combatants' fire destroyed 1 enemy ammunition dump and 7 trenches, damaged 2 vehicles and 2 Katyushas belonging to the aggressive elements and killed or wounded 12 of the enemy forces.

In the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, artillery fire by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed one enemy tank, one vehicle and several trenches and put two tanks out of action.

On the Shush and Reqabiyeh fronts, our heroic personnel, having returned enemy fire, set ablaze 1 vehicle and 2 observation posts, killing or wounding at least 30 Iraqi troops.

Residential areas in Abadan became the target of enemy heavy-weapon fire yesterday, resulting in material damage and casualties. Combatants of the ground forces in the Abadan region opened fire on enemy positions and destroyed one artillery piece belonging to Saddam's army. Moreover, navy personnel fire destroyed several weapons trenches and two observation posts belonging to the Iraqi personnel in the occupied Khuninshahr section.

In the Dasht-e 'Abbas and 'Eyn Khosh region, our forces destroyed four enemy trenches, one vehicle and one observation post, killing a number of the aggressive personnel.

In the operations of 23 January, eight combatants from the Ground Forces and one member of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the ranks of the martyrs who are always witnessing history [as heard]. May their memory be dear.

IRANIAN FORCES STRIKE ENEMY ROAD, POSITIONS

LD222024 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT 22 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 22 Jan (IRNA) -- The Islamic combatants struck at a logistic road of the enemy in Sar-e Pol-e region, southeast of Qasr-e Shirin, killing or wounding several enemy soldiers on Thursday. Also, two vehicles, one group bunker and several dug-outs were smashed in this region.

On the western fronts of Bakhtaran, 27 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded while two artillery units and one tank were destroyed and its crew killed, and several other vehicles damaged.

In Kamyaran, 55 kms north of Bakhtaran city and in Kordestan Province, one anti-tank mine and in Salmas and Maku in West Azarbayjan Province, five illegal guns, two anti-tank mines and one anti-personnel mine were seized from counterrevolutionaries.

Also, battles continued in the western fronts of Ilam, being more fierce in Meymak and Konjancham, respectively 26 and 4 kms from the Iraqi border. During these battles the activities of the Iraqi batteries and bunker construction were prevented in Konjancham and Nakhlestan.

RADIO IRAN REPORTS ON CLASHES IN KORDESTAN

GF251816 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Reports coming from Kordestan indicate that Khomeyni's mercenary guards attacked a group of people in Kordestan yesterday who were demonstrating against the arrest of a group of Kurdish youth, killing six of them.

According to the same report, a group of Kurdish fighters attacked a base of Khomeyni's guards near Marivan, killing 8 and wounding 11 guards.

GUARDS CORPS OPERATIONS AGAINST KDP REPORTED

LD252146 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 25 Jan (IRNA) -- On Sunday some 10 members of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party were freed from prison after expressing repentance for their past actions in Mahabad, West Azarbayjan Province. This announcement came at a gathering of inmates' families who had been invited by the Islamic revolutionary guards of the city.

Meanwhile, in the continuing campaign against counterrevolutionary group, the IRGC [Iranian Revolution Guards Corps] killed one outlaw member of the KDP and wounded some others in a guerrilla operation near the West Azarbayjan city of Miando'ab today. During the operation, which took place in the early morning, all the guards reportedly returned to their base safely.

Also in a police operation in a village near Mahabad and the overlooking heights on Sunday, 15 counterrevolutionaries were killed by the Islamic combatants. The IRGC of Urumiyeh, the provincial capital, while confirming the report, added that one vehicle of the rebels was also destroyed, killing or wounding a number of other counterrevolutionaries. None of the Islamic combatants were hurt in the operation.

TEHRAN TIMES ON REASONS FOR BAHA'I EXECUTIONS

NC242008 Paris AFP in English 2005 GMT 24 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 24 Jan (AFP) -- The Tehran TIMES said today that recent controversial executions of members of Iran's religious Baha'i community were justified because the minority sect had collaborated with the regime of the ousted shah.

In a lengthy commentary on the executions, the English-language daily said "the ex-shah always tried to employ mercenaries and "sold out" communists, Baha'is, Zionists, etc...."

Under the heading "If Washington Listens" -- a response to a recent New York TIMES story entitled "If Tehran Listens" -- the Tehran TIMES accused "such creatures" of being the "tools for spreading the economic and cultural domination of America over Iran."

The editorialist mocked the West, saying it had failed to raise a protest against Iran's 1978 "Black Friday" massacres under the late shah, whose regime was overthrown in early 1979, but now showed concern for the Baha'i deaths.

"The West must know", the TIMES wrote, "that every single agent of theirs will ultimately be arrested and executed if need be, even if this figure should total up to 111,000 people".

The figure of 111,000 referred indirectly to a New York TIMES report that 111 Baha'is had been executed under the current Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Iranian Supreme Court President Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, the Tehran TIMES recalled, said recently that Baha'is had been executed for their political activities and not for their religious beliefs.

Referring to the late shah's 13-year-term Baha'i prime minister, Amir Abbas Hoveyda, the TIMES said "the reader can imagine how many Baha'is were put in important positions" by this man.

Baha'i execution figures quoted in the West, the paper added, "fall short of the numbers who may strictly 'deserve' to be executed".

One had to take into account, the TIMES explained, that "such men as the infamous Hoveyda proliferated the ex-shah's mansions and courtly offices".

According to the paper, Iran's 98 per cent Muslim majority lived in "real peaceful coexistence with Christians, Jews, communists and even Baha'is who did not plot against the Islamic faith and the revolution of the people".

"The Islamic Republican Government", it said, would not tolerate any "Muslim, Jew or Baha'i to conspire against the Islamic revolution".

JUDGE REPORTS BANI-SADR ACCOMPLICES ARRESTED

LD242334 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 24 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 24 Jan (IRNA) -- Monafeqin (MKO) [Mojahedin-e Khalq] members who helped Bani-Sadr flee were recently arrested, revealed an army Islamic judge. In an interview with the afternoon daily KEYHAN, Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, the head of the armed forces Islamic revolutionary courts, said that some MKO members who had infiltrated air force base No. 1, and helped Bani-Sadr and Rajavi flee Iran, had been spotted and arrested. He added that much interesting information had been obtained from them which would be released later.

Asked how leads on the case were found, Reyshahri said the most information came from armed forces personnel who he said were representatives of the Iranian nation and who were 100 percent Islamic and following the line of Imam Khomeyni. He added that the armed forces had been purged of counterrevolutionary elements.

Asked about the two helicopters which had been hijacked abroad, the religious judge said although they were returned to Iran the pilots who had taken them were stranded abroad without any support from the West.

He said that on the occasion of the third anniversary of the Islamic revolution of Iran, some carefully screened reformed prisoners were going to be pardoned.

On the crash of the C-130 aircraft which led to the martyrdom of many commanders of the armed forces, Reyshahri said so far no evidence of sabotage had been found.

MOJAHEDIN ON IMPRISONED REGIME OPPONENTS

NC231715 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 23 Jan 82

[Text] For the first time the Mojahedin-e Khalq has confirmed in a statement that between 25,000 to 30,000 freedom-seeking men and women are imprisoned in the Islamic Republic's dungeons. A spokesman for the organization said that the political prisoners are savagely tortured. Reliable reports indicate that about 4,000 of the prisoners are members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq and (?the remainder), numbering about (?20,000), are members of Iran's nationalist and freedom-seeking groups.

It should be noted that the Mojahedin-e Khalq, which now confesses to and protests the existence of tens of thousands of political prisoners in the Islamic Republic, was previously a partner with the regime in filling the prisons with Iranian strugglers. Up to the time of Bani-Sadr's and Rajavi's escape, the Mojahedin-e Khalq referred to the members of combatant and nationalist groups -- those who started their pitiless struggles to defend the homeland and save the country from the hands of the rule of foreigners the very first day following the establishment of the Islamic Republic -- as counter-revolutionaries affiliated with the United States. The Mojahedin-e Khalq had strongly supported the execution of nationalists by the Islamic regime.

GROUPS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR AMINI FRONT

NC222239 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 22 Jan 82

[Excerpts] During the past week, the invitation by former Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Amini to groups opposing Khomeyni's regime to join the front for Iran's salvation was among the most important news items of our country. In an interview in Paris, Dr Amini explained the front's 7-point charter for Iran's salvation to foreign correspondents. He announced that so far (?several) anti-Khomeyni groups, both at home and abroad, have joined the front for Iran's salvation. General Fereydun Jam, Admiral Madani, General Aryana -- who is positioned on the Iranian border -- and Qashqa'i, Baluchi, Kurdish and Bakhtiari tribes have joined the front. Their representatives have announced their readiness for any type of cooperation to attain Iran's freedom and salvation.

Following the declaration of the front for Iran's salvation by Dr 'Ali Amini, General Aryana, together with the military and commandos under his command, sent a cable expressing his support for the front.

It should be recalled that the Free Voice of Iran, in view of its belief in the right of freely disseminating information and news, broadcasted the text of Dr 'Ali Amini's press conference and his 7-point charter just as it has broadcasted reports on other opponents of Khomeyni's regime, such as Bani-Sadr, Mas'ud Rajavi and Shapur Bakhtiar.

KUWAITI PAPER INTERVIEWS SHAPUR BAKHTIAR

GF241935 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 23 Jan 82 p 16

[Interview granted to AS-SIYASAH correspondent Tamam al-Barazi by former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar at his residence in France -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] We asked Bakhtiar about the Iranian opposition.

[Answer] I was alone in opposing the regime 2 years ago. All others, like Bani-Sadr, were collaborating with Khomeyni. Now they claim to be opposing the regime. They are the opposition of the last moment.

[Question] Do you not consider Mas'ud Rajavi the main opposition in Iran since the Mojahedin-e Khalq are inside Iran while you have no influence there?

[Answer] The point is that everything is in Iran and not here. We, the Iranians who are living here, represent an ideology on Iran's future while Bani-Sadr and Rajavi -- particularly Bani-Sadr, who was the Islamic Republic's engineer -- collaborated with Khomeyni and was the chairman of the Revolution Council. What is the meaning of revolution? Revolution is for progress and justice, not for reaction and backwardness.

[Question] Why do you oppose the Islamic Republic and use touch language in describing it?

[Answer] The Islamic Republic, like Khomeyni's regime, is outdated. Let me tell you about my dealings with the shah. I fought the shah for 25 years for my homeland's sake and for the sake of freedom, progress, justice and democracy. I am proud because I have been a socialist all the time. I studied here when I was young. Meanwhile, we have not called for anything like Khomeyni's regime. Rather, we have been calling for adherence to the Constitution and for individual liberties. We have not called for a republic. I am not against republics. The French Republic is better than monarchy. It is like (?Pinochet's) republic in Chile or a kingdom in Sweden. [sentence as published]

When I assumed power, I tried to fulfill all which Mossadeq had called for: adherence to the Constitution, individual liberties and dissolution of SAVAK, criminal law and everything that contradicted the Constitution. I did not collaborate with the shah. I was with him for 1 week only, after which I asked him to leave the country. I did not accept the post of prime minister under the shah's rule or under his conditions.

[Question] But you could not control the streets and your government collapsed in the face of popular opposition and demonstrations.

[Answer] Yes. It was too late when I assumed power. What could I do, although I had predicted everything?

[Question] You had the chance to rule.

[Answer] It was too late, Sir. Had I assumed power 6 months or even 3 months earlier, it would have been impossible for Khomeyni to come to power. But the shah refused this.

[Question] Do you believe that had the shah allowed you to rule 3 months earlier, Khomeyni would not have come to power?

[Answer] Surely. Had he done so, Khomeyni would not have imagined he would rule. This is not my opinion; it is the opinion of the one who helped Khomeyni. It is Brzezinski's opinion. I have the document which Brzezinski wrote to President Carter in which he said had Bakhtiar assumed power 3 months earlier he would not have been forced out. However, according to the "stupid" Constitution and Khomeyni's conception of Islam, which is against freedom, Bani-Sadr had full authority to rule. He had to resign when he could not rule, and he was ousted according to the Constitution.

[Question] But he was against the mullahs' interference with power.

[Answer] Bani-Sadr himself is a mullah. Yet he is bad and he was not with us in the National Front. He was wooing all and his father was a mullah and opposed Mossadeq. He took part in ousting Mossadeq and supported Zahedi's coup. Zahedi hid in Bani-Sadr's house for many weeks.

[Question] If you attack everyone, Bani-Sadr and Rajavi, you are alone. Do you believe you will be able to overthrow Khomeyni's regime alone.

[Answer] No, I do not collaborate with the people who collaborated with Khomeyni. Khomeyni's government has harmed us more than any country in the Middle East. [sentence as published] Whatever your state is, I refuse to recognize this republic and I refuse to cooperate with the man who took part in bringing about Khomeyni's regime.

[Question] Others say that you collaborated with the shah and thus they refuse to deal with you.

[Answer] I was alone when everyone else was dealing with Khomeyni. Most of those who are creating the furor now were silent 1 year ago. Why don't I deal with people such as Bani-Sadr and Rajavi? Because of my principles as a social democrat which I implemented when I was in power. Rajavi is a Marxist and a Muslim, and this is nonsense -- very stupid and impossible. Bani-Sadr usurped individual liberties and forced women to wear the veil.

[Question] Don't you believe the Iranians accepted this and asked for it?

[Answer] You are still young. When I was your age, I saw how the German people asked Hitler to rule Germany. You know the result. People who have not been educated politically and who have not had the chance to practice party rule do not know how to choose their ruler, especially since Khomeyni claimed that he upheld freedom; but he deceived the people. There were a group of killers around him, like Bani-Sadr. I prefer people like Beheshti because this man lived in Europe and knew the meaning of freedom. He died after learning about man's dignity. As for your question, about if I refuse to deal with Rajavi and Bani-Sadr, with whom will I deal, I am ready to offer my hand for cooperation with any Iranian who has not been involved in this tragedy, even if he is neutral.

[Question] What about the three islands?

[Answer] They are not ours and we cannot live on them. Why do we fight with our neighbors? It is crazy. I was the first Iranian prime minister to ask the Palestinians to send a representative to Iran. This was not easy after 30 years. Damascus and Baghdad congratulated me on this. Yet I do not think the Iranians now think of the PLO the way they used to 2 years ago. Let us be realistic. I fought and a solution must be found, and I never asked to be the gendarme of the Gulf.

[Question] Do you have good relations with Iraq?

[Answer] Yes, I have good relations with Iraq because Iraq does not depend on the United States or on others, directly or indirectly. Iraq has helped me. Let me reiterate that Iraq is right and that it is Khomeyni who started problems inside Iraq and interfered in its internal affairs. Iranians do not have the right to interfere in Iraq's policy. Khomeyni did this and sent money to the mullahs in Iraq. Even Bani-Sadr said he would export the revolution. What is the meaning of this and why does it happen? If there were someone other than Khomeyni in the regime, the dispute with Iraq would end in 2 weeks and understanding with Iraq would be reached.

[Question] Why does Khomeyni not want to stop the war?

[Answer] Because if the army becomes free, it will head for Tehran and topple Khomeyni's regime.

[Question] The army was under your power. Why did you not use it against Khomeyni?

[Answer] Listen, Khomeyni will not allow the army to enter the cities, particularly Tehran, because he is afraid.

[Question] But you said if the army returns to Tehran it will topple the regime.

[Answer] No, no. No army in history has stayed neutral after a war.

[Question] The army was under you when it was very strong but it did nothing against the people and Khomeyni?

[Answer] Never. The army was not under me. The prime minister was a toy in the shah's hands. Bakhtiar was the only man who said to the shah: I am responsible for the country. Had I assumed power 3 months earlier, I would have crushed the treachery of the generals and that would have changed the course of Iran's history.

[Question] What about Rajavi?

[Answer] Wait a moment. These people oppose Khomeyni. I said and I say again that Khomeyni plus Bani-Sadr equals Khomeyni because Bani-Sadr is a zero.

[Question] And Rajavi?

[Answer] For your information, Rajavi was arrested 8 years ago. He was a member of the Central Committee of this Marxist-Islamic organization. Six of his colleagues were arrested with him. The six were executed while Rajavi was not. Why? Let me recount the story for you, a story which an Iranian ambassador in Moscow told me. This former ambassador is living in Paris. You can meet him. His name is Farshandi. You can ask him about the story. He told me that former Soviet leader Podgorny had asked him to meet him in the Kremlin. He asked him to go personally to Tehran and ask the shah to spare Rajavi's life.

[Question] Who are the Mojahedin-e Khalq and from where do they receive money?

[Answer] From Bani-Sadr and the money is from Iran because, as president, Bani-Sadr had the money under his disposal. But this is not the issue. Believe me, if I want to count those who are fighting against Khomeyni, they will not be only the Mojahedin-e Khalq but will be from all sectors of the people. A young man like Rajavi, who is qualified to be a hero and a patriot, must not leave his people in Iran and come here. I am 65 years old and he is 33. He must stay there, like Tito, and lead the struggle against Khomeyni.

[Question] I asked him the same question and he said he will return to Iran within the next 2 months.

[Answer] Well, 2 months ago he said the same thing. Ha, ha.

[Question] Who is attacking the mullahs and who is carrying out these explosions? Are they not the Mojahedin-e Khalq?

[Answer] No, no. Beheshti's assassination was not carried out by Mojahedin-e Khalq. They were not responsible for it.

[Question] What about the incidents before and after Beheshti's assassination?

[Answer] Perhaps small explosions in the streets are carried out by Mojahedin-e Khalq. As for big incidents like Beheshti's and Raja'i's assassinations, they are not carried out by them.

[Question] Who do you believe killed them?

[Answer] Please, excuse me. I cannot tell you who did so.

[Question] Yet, more explosions are being carried out in Iran. Who is carrying them out?

[Answer] Probably some SAVAKists are carrying them out, particularly since SAVAK still has its roots.

[Question] Who instigates them?

[Answer] They want to oust Khomeyni. You know that the majority of Iranians -- as everywhere in the world -- are silent people. The people look for the strongest. Now the people look to me, Bani-Sadr and the Mojahedin-e Khalq. In the internal arena, both Bani-Sadr and the Mojahedin-e Khalq have ended. They have even ended on the international level, especially since there is a split among the Mojahedin-e Khalq in Iran.

[Question] Don't you believe that the Muslim Iranian people chose the Islamic Republic because Islam is a religion and a state and there are many Islamic countries which implement Islam?

[Answer] Why does 'Arafat call for a secular democratic state in Palestine and we ask the Iranians to accept the government of Islam? This was authentic many centuries ago. Every country has its own civilization. We had our civilization before Islam.

[Question] Well, what do you expect, while you are staying in the West, making statements while you have no power in Iran?

[Answer] Who has authority in Iran? The army is engaged in the Iraqi-Iranian war. How many people are fighting on behalf of Bani-Sadr and Rajavi?

[Question] Tell me. How many?

[Answer] No more than 2,000 or 3,000.

[Question] But do you have 1,000 fighters?

[Answer] More than 200 of my followers were executed 1 year ago. Bani-Sadr executed them. He is a bastard ['akrut] because the generals and civilians told him that they were fighting for social democracy and on Bakhtiar's behalf. I believe this is very insipid. It is very insipid that he comes here and asks young men to be killed every day.

[Question] Don't you believe that people in Iran are not asked to be killed and that they support Rajavi and take to the streets?

[Answer] Khomeyni had his chance. Out of fear of communism, the Western countries have done their best to support and deal with Khomeyni. They tried to reach an agreement with him and with Bani-Sadr. But Bani-Sadr has no character. Now this is over and the West cannot support Khomeyni. I am not a Marxist like Rajavi. Yet, economic difficulties are urgent, more than you imagine. Khomeyni will fall. I do not say he will fall without a struggle. He will fall through struggle and there will be more bloodshed than is taking place now, but it will be for a short time. Khomeyni's followers will then go to work because you cannot rule the country through slogans and demonstrations, only by planning. Bani-Sadr closed the universities and he did this against Rajavi. Now he shakes hands with Rajavi. He is a man without any principles.

[Question] You have sent a delegation to them?

[Answer] If I said that I sent one person to them, I would be a liar.

[Question] It is said that you receive assistance from some Arab countries.

[Answer] Do you mean because I am protected by French soldiers? Don't you know that Khomeyni sent people of various nationalities three times to kill me and I am still alive. This is the only thing the French have done for me. Neither the United Kingdom nor Germany has offered such a thing. As for the Americans, they are not intelligent enough to decide. I believe Reagan is stronger than Carter. Yet Reagan has to understand that it is impossible to send an army to Iran. France granted me political asylum because I was in the French resistance during World War II, and I am preferred to Rajavi, the terrorist.

At the end of the interview Bakhtiar attacked Ashraf Pahlavi and said: "They say in their tongues that which is not in their hearts." [Koranic verse]

BUDGET CHIEF REPORTS TO CABINET ON ITALY VISIT

LD231744 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 23 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 23 Jan (IRNA) -- Speaking about the recent trip of the head of the Budget and Plan Organisation, Mohammad Taqi Banki, to Italy in a Cabinet session today he said that the trip was highly successful and he was given a warm welcome. During this trip, he added, it became clear that finally some of the European countries realised that they should not consider their interests one and the same with the United States and that it would be in their interest to enter into trade with Iran on an independent and free base and on the basis of just human relations. The latest developments in the Iraqi imposed war and sociopolitical issues were also discussed in the Cabinet meeting today.

Speaking to reporters after the session, the minister of labour and social affairs and government spokesman, Ahmad Tavakkoli, said that during the meeting the deputy prime minister for plan projects, 'Abdollah Hasemi, presented a report on the problems of potential employees and gave suggestions on making use of their services. The minister of commerce, Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman, presented a report on holding an international exhibition and decisions were made in this respect, Tavakkoli said.

The minister of education, 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh, also talked about activities of his ministry and said that this year the elementary school text books were distributed on time, which was unprecedented in the past twenty-five years.

According to Tavakkoli, the prime minister discussed the project of the cultural revolution headquarters and the merging of training and medication [as received] with it.

Communique on Visit

LD231754 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Jan 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, a joint communique was issued at the conclusion of a high-ranking Iranian economic delegation's visit to Italy. The communique notes the meeting and discussions held in Italy by Iranian Minister of State in charge of the Plan and Budget Organization Mr Banki with the Italian ministers of foreign affairs, budget and planning, industry and foreign trade and with other Italian officials. It says that the two countries have reached agreement on the friendly relations and cooperation between their two nations.

According to the communique, the two sides reviewed their past industrial cooperation and current plans and projects under construction, and reached understanding for speedy completion of those projects. The Italian side expressed pleasure over the Iranian Government's concern on the suspended issues and its search to find a mutually acceptable solution.

During the Iranian delegation's visit to Italy, avenues of mutual cooperation in the fields of light and heavy industries, mechanisation of agriculture, infrastructure industries and irrigation were also explored. The communique also says that Iran and Italy agreed that the expansion of economic and commercial relations between them will be based on a policy of mutual balance.

The two sides reemphasized the importance of Iranian exports of oil and nonpetroleum products to Italy as an important factor in the expansion of mutual cooperation.

LOAN OFFERED TO JAPAN FOR JOINT VENTURE

LD252158 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 25 Jan (IRNA) -- Iran is willing to grant a loan to Japan to complete the joint petrochemical complex [JPC] (a 50-50 joint venture), but Japan has not yet announced its agreement to accept the loan, said the undersecretary of the Oil Ministry, Taheri, in an interview with BOURSE, a Tehran daily economic paper today.

He said that the prime minister and the high economic council had delegated authority to Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi to hold talks with the Japanese delegation due to come to Tehran shortly to attend the third round of talks. The Iranian Government has agreed to grant a loan for the remaining 15 percent of the petrochemical plan plus damages caused by the imposed war on the complex. This amounts to a 541 million dollars loan to the JPC.

The Mitsui group and Japanese share holders have not yet announced their agreement of this new proposition, but it seems that the Japanese partners lack funds.

He said Iran has decided to supervise all industrial projects, including the Iran-Japan complex and the Shiraz fertilizer expansion project.

Referring to the Shiraz fertilizer project, Taheri said that at present Iranian petrochemical experts are continuing the work of foreign contractors consisting of 13 European companies who had previously left the country.

Iran receives technical aid from them but Iranians themselves were working on the project. He concluded that the project enjoys special importance due to the need of fertilizer in the agricultural industry.

NVOI URGES STRUGGLE AGAINST U.S. OIL POLICY

TA251211 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 24 Jan 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Struggle Against the Neocolonialist Oil Policy Must Be Intensified"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: In the world oil market the policy of determining price continues to rest with the oil-exporting OPEC members. The oil-exporting countries control 3/4 of the discovered oil reserves of the world's non-socialist countries. The major part of these reserves is concentrated in the Persian Gulf. The oil cartel has exerted all its efforts to create a schism in OPEC because this organization's anti-imperialist policy prevents the implementation of a neocolonialist policy by the international oil cartel.

The policy of trying to drive a wedge in OPEC has been repeatedly implemented by the United States. The international oil cartel, in which U.S. oil monopolies are dominant, is not ready to relinquish the plundered profits emanating from the extraction and exploitation of the OPEC countries' oil. The oil cartel, resorting to all means, including economic sanctions, sabotage and so forth, is attempting to create a schism in OPEC.

For example, the American company Aramco, which plunders Saudi Arabia's oil, reaped more than $2 billion in extra profits in 1981 alone, merely as a result of purchasing Saudi oil at $2 per barrel cheaper than the price fixed by OPEC. Of course, with the decision in OPEC's recent conference an almost unified price has been set for the oil exported by the members of this organization, although it is still not clear to what extent Saudi Arabia will commit itself to carrying out this decision. Nevertheless, the oil cartel has intensified its machinations.

The oil cartel has carried impunity to such an extent that it is engaged in boycotting the purchase of oil and in overt subversion against the different OPEC countries. For example, the United States recalled its oil experts who were working in Libya according to an agreement with the Libyan Government.

OPEC's struggle against the oil monopolies is not an easy struggle. Some OPEC members have decided to reduce their oil production in order to prevent an oil glut in the international oil market and a reduction in the price of oil. OPEC members have embarked on establishing oil-shipping companies in order to reduce dependence on imperialist companies for the supply of oil to consumers. Measures are being taken toward the establishment of petrochemical industries which will reduce the export and waste of crude oil. However, OPEC's main act against the oil cartel, minimizing the oil monopolies' influence and exerting complete control by the oil-possessing countries over oil resources, installations and export, still continues.

Without doubt countries such as our Islamic Republic, or Libya, Algeria, Venezuela and some other countries that have succeeded in nationalizing their oil, have been able to achieve numerous successes. These countries have become free from dependence on the oil cartel and they themselves determine their oil policy in accordance with the interests of their national economy.

At the same time, one should note that the oil cartel has always exploited OPEC's weakness to exert pressure on its members, particularly against that group of countries that implements a consistent anti-imperialist policy.

At OPEC's conferences Saudi Arabia unquestionably pursues a compromising policy toward the oil cartel. Saudi Arabia is not dependent on the United States merely from the viewpoint of arms. Tens of billions of the Saudis' petrodollars are deposited in U.S. banks, and U.S. bankers utilize these funds according to their own interests and inclination. It is these funds of the Saudis and similar countries that the United States utilizes to expand industrial-military complexes and to intensify the arms race.

Should Saudi Arabia demur, Reagan can freeze all its deposits, as they have done in the case of our revolutionary country because of its implementation of an anti-imperialist policy. Contrary to all moral and legal mores the United States blocked all of our Islamic Republic's bank deposits. However, Saudi Arabia does not wish to learn the necessary lesson from this bullying by aggressive America and continues the flow of its petrodollars into the safes of U.S. bankers.

Contrary to concluded agreements, Washington refuses to return our Islamic Republic's deposits at various U.S. banks, and everyday concocts a new excuse to continue this economic terrorism. The United States can do the same thing in the case of other OPEC members that have deposited their petrodollars in U.S. banks because world-devouring America is not bound by any principles and moral and legal mores. All this indicates that the oil-exporting members of OPEC can only defeat world-devouring America and the oil cartel through unity and continuation of struggle.

DETAILS OF AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Zaranj Airfield Damaged

GF241748 Zahedan International Service in Urdu 1530 GMT 24 Jan 82

[Text] The Muslim Afghan mujahidin yesterday attacked Zaranj city, the capital of Nimruz Province, in Afghanistan.

They destroyed one Soviet tank and damaged a considerable part of Zaranj airfield.

Two puppets of the Soviet military government were killed while several others were wounded.

17 Soviets Killed

GF240858 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Jan 82

[Text] Afghan Muslim mujahidin killed 17 Soviet soldiers and destroyed their personnel carrier in a battle in the region of (Kasiban), western Herat Province.

The Afghan combatants also captured an army truck and large quantities of weapons and ammunition.

6 Tanks Destroyed

LD252134 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 25 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 25 Jan (IRNA) -- During a two-day clash between Afghan Muslim mujahidin and government and Soviet occupier forces in Herat Province, six tanks and a personnel carrier were destroyed and its crew was killed.

The Afghan Muslim mujahidin office in Zahedan announced that in those clashes one of the Afghan Muslim mujahidin was martyred.